

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of~~ treating halitosis in an individual in need thereof, the method comprising administering to said individual a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*, ~~extract thereof~~, or composition comprising said *S. salivarius* ~~or extract thereof~~, effective to at least inhibit growth of anaerobic bacteria, ~~or in an amount to allow effective colonisation~~ in the oral cavity of the individual by BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the anaerobic bacteria are selected from strains of:
  - (i) black-pigmented species;
  - (ii) Eubacterium; and
  - (iii) Micromonas species.
7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the black-pigmented species are Prevotella species.
- 8-10. (Cancelled)
11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the *S. salivarius* produce one or more of Salivaricin A, Salivaricin A<sub>1</sub>, Salivaricin A<sub>2</sub>, Salivaricin B, or variants of any one of these.
12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the *S. salivarius* produces Salivaricin B or a variant thereof.
13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the *S. salivarius* also produces Salivaricin A<sub>2</sub> or a variant thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the Salivaricin producer is *S. salivarius* strain K12, on deposit at Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen Und Zellkulturen GmbH, Braunschweig, Germany, accession number DSM 13084.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the Salivaricin producer is *S. salivarius* strain K30, on deposit at Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen Und Zellkulturen GmbH, Braunschweig, Germany, accession number DSM 13085.

16-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the composition includes a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius* or an extract thereof, in combination with a diluent, carrier and/or excipient.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the composition is an orally administrable composition.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the orally administrable composition is formulated as a lozenge, spray, mouth rinse, toothpaste, dentifrice, gargle, capsule, floss, film, chewing gum or chewable tablet.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the composition is formulated as a lozenge.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the composition is in unit dosage form.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein the composition further comprises one or more additional ~~secondary~~ antibacterial agents.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 25, wherein the additional ~~secondary~~ antibacterial agent(s) are selected from bacteriocin-like inhibitory substance(s) (BLIS).

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said *S. salivarius*, extract or composition thereof is included in a food, drink, or confectionary.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the inhibitory or controlling effect is caused by at least partial colonisation of the oral cavity of an individual with a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein the method includes a preliminary step of pre-treating said individual to at least reduce the bacterial population present in the oral cavity.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein the pre-treatment comprises physical removal of bacteria and/or administration of an antibacterial agent.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30 wherein the antibacterial agent is selected from chlorine dioxide and chlorhexidine.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~controlling the incidence or severity of~~ halitosis in an individual, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) scraping the tongue of the individual;  
(ii) gargling or rinsing with chlorine dioxide; and  
(iii) administering to the resulting bacterially depopulated oral cavity an amount of a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius*, ~~extract thereof~~, or composition comprising said *S. salivarius* or ~~extract thereof~~, effective to treat ~~control~~ said halitosis.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, which further comprises brushing with a non-chlorhexidine containing toothpaste before gargling or rinsing with chlorine dioxide.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 33, wherein the *S. salivarius* or composition ~~extract thereof~~ is administered in the form of a composition, food, drink or confectionary-comprising a BLIS-producing *S. salivarius* or composition comprising *S. salivarius* ~~extract thereof~~.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 37, wherein the composition is in the form of a lozenge.

39. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein lozenges are administered 1 to 5 times a day.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) The method according to-claim 39, which is repeated daily for 2 to 4 days to facilitate colonisation of the oral cavity of the individual.

42. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 41, wherein after colonisation, 1 or 2 lozenges are taken each day following ordinary tooth brushing.

43-70. (Cancelled)